

Charity number 1197159

**FORD TO HUNSTON CANAL SOCIETY
(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)**

(Formerly known as Burndell Bridge Society until 1st May, 2023)

Annual Report and Accounts

31st December, 2025

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(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

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FORD TO HUNSTON CANAL SOCIETY
(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Report of the Trustees for the year to 31st December, 2025

Members of the Trustee Board at 31st December, 2025

Chair	Elaine Cordingley
Secretary	Richard Boulter
Treasurer	Denise Ramshaw (until end of year)
Deputy Chair	Andy Jones (from June 2025)
Individual Member	James Gadd
Individual Member	Andy Kuhler (Resigned April 2025)
Individual Member	Allen Misselbrook (Chair of Trustee Meetings)
Individual Member	Andrew Saunders

Independent Examiner (Not required as income under £ 25,000)

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc
Business Banking
PO Box 1000
BX1 1LT

Registered Office per Charities Commission registration

c/o No. 2, The Thicketts
Bognor Regis
West Sussex
PO21 3HD

Registered Charity Number

1197159

Report of the Trustees

The Trustee Board presents its report for its third reporting period of 12 months to 31st December, 2025.

Structure, Governance and Management

Ford to Hunston Canal Society is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, and was registered by the Charity Commission on 16 December, 2021. It has a Trustee Board comprising seven Trustees, who are ultimately accountable for the conduct of the organisation.

Ford to Hunston Canal Society's Objects according to its Constitution are as follows:

- (1) To promote for the benefit of the public the preservation, restoration, improvement, enhancement, and maintenance of the historical and architectural heritage of the Portsmouth & Arundel Canal, within the Arun and Chichester Districts of West Sussex, between Ford and Hunston, including the Burndell Bridge;
- (2) To advance the education of the public in the history and architecture of the heritage of the Portsmouth & Arundel Canal between Ford and Hunston, working with local educational institutions to enhance knowledge in the history of the Canal heritage along this section of the Canal.

The delivery of these Objects is the responsibility of the existing seven Trustees, three of them concurrently acting as the Executive Committee of Ford to Hunston Canal Society through holding the three Executive positions of: Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer.

As ever, our appreciation goes to the ongoing supporters of the Society, and to Committee members in particular, and we note Andy Jones coming on board formally, as our Deputy Chair. We also thank Denise Ramshaw, our departing Treasurer, and look forward to her continuing help on canal matters as a Councillor in Aldingbourne Parish.

Aims and Objectives

The “Aims” of the Ford to Hunston Canal Society with effect from 1st May, 2023, are:

- Aim 1 – to record information relating to the Ford to Hunston section of the Portsmouth and Arundel Navigation (“the canal”) and associated waterways;
- Aim 2 – to maintain access to the canal footpaths and restored remains;
- Aim 3 – to preserve, restore and maintain the line of the canal and features along it;
- Aim 4 – to support the establishment of a “Greenway” along the route of the Ford to Hunston Canal if it substantially preserves the line of the canal and the features along it.

These “Aims” are seen as fitting within the Constitution’s Objects as set out above, and agreed with the Charity Commission.

Activities and Achievements

In addition to the 2024 AGM held on 3rd April, 2025, there were 5 (2024: 9) Committee meetings held during the year.

Lobbying on maintaining the line and features of the canal continued as one focus of the Society’s activities. In particular, the Society was represented at the regular meetings of the Vistry Community Liaison Group on the Ford Landings Airfield Development site relevant to both Ford and Yapton Parishes, and attended the Arun District Council Planning Committee where 3 sections obtained reserved matters approval.

On the Charmans Field development site, North Mundham Parish, a condition of the outline proposal was approved to construct a new permissive path along the old canal route which, subject to reserved matters approval, will be implemented in due course alongside the development site with landowner approval.

Another focus of the Society includes preserving its features along the 9-10 mile canal stretch. This year activities at the Drove Lane development site in Yapton Parish included the removal and placing of canal bridge stone artefacts into the Sheep Field in front of the site, and the installation of a temporary Signboard opposite the entrance. Other “workdays” included maintenance work on the Denges Barn embankment, and at Merston bridges at St Giles and Park Lane, and at Stewart Bridge in Barnham Parish. At the end of the year, the Society re-stained the upright wooden posts holding the previously installed Signboards as part of maintenance activities.

In terms of our “public benefit” objective, Education activities included a Guided Walk on 24th May, and separate attendance at Exhibitions in Yapton and North Mundham Parishes on 12th July.

Financial Review

The financial accounts for the period ending 31st December 2025 are set out on page 7. These show a deficit of £ 34 (2024: Surplus £ 1,394) comprising individual donations and revenue raised at Guided Walks, Exhibitions, and the sale of our Walking leaflet.

The Society’s insurance cover from Travellers Insurance Company Ltd includes public liability and professional indemnity insurance.

Statement of Trustees’ responsibilities

The Trustees are required by law to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity as at the end of the financial year, and of the surplus or deficit of the Charity. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities’ Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP);
- State whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its work.

The trustees are also responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity, and which are sufficient to show and explain the Charity’s transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006/Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provision of Ford to Hunston Canal Society’s constitution.

The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees of Ford to Hunston Canal Society on 9th April, 2026 and will be uploaded to the Charities Commission website in due course.

(Signed)

Elaine Cordingley (Chairman & Trustee)

Ford to Hunston Canal Society CIO

Statement of Financial Activities

Receipts & Payments Account for Period ending 31st December, 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Receipts	1		
Membership Fees	2	150	150
Other Individual Donations		--	11
Donation from Friends of the Old Ford to Hunston Canal	3	25	351
Corporate Donations	3		1,000
Income from Exhibitions & Guided Walks and sale of booklets	4	58	268
Payments			
Insurance & IWA subscription	6	261	257
Cost of Booklets, Printing, & Materials	7	-	199
Net Surplus/(Deficit)		£ (34)	1,324

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December, 2005

Assets

Closing Bank Account	2786	2,881
Add: Cash from Walking Leaflets to be deposited after year end	42	0
Adjusted Bank Account as at 31 st December 2025	2828	2,881
(NB. No of walking leaflets in stock as at 31.12.25 = 65)		
TOTAL ASSETS	£ 2,828	£ 2,881

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed Elaine Cordingley, Chair & Trustee

Dated 9th April, 2026

Ford to Hunston Canal Society CIO

Notes to the Accounts for the Year ended 31st December, 2025

Receipts & Payments Account for Period ending 31st December, 2025

1. Receipts & Payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Cash received and cash spent will include transactions through the CIO bank account.

2. Directors' Donations

During the 2025 year, Annual Membership subscriptions of £ 15 each were typically donated by all Trustees and Committee Members.

3. Grants

No grants were received in 2024 from public authorities. A donation was provided from the Burndell Bridge Society bank account, on its closing, to reflect the merging of that organisation with the Ford to Hunston Canal Society during the year.

4. Income

During the year income was received from sales of food and beverages, via Exhibitions and Guided Walk, and from the sale of the Society's Walking Guide.

5. Gift Aid

In March, 2022 Burndell Bridge Society (now renamed as the Ford to Hunston Canal Society) applied for and successfully obtained an HMRC Charities Reference Number (ZD15917), which will be used to claim eligible Gift Aid payments in future.

6. Trustees' Remuneration & CIO Expenditure

Trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits in this period, and there was modest expenditure by the CIO on insurance and membership of the Inland Waterways Association, with other modest costs being covered by Directors and other supporters on a voluntary basis.

9th April, 2026

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